STAND. COM. REP. NO. 2455

Honolulu, Hawaii

MAR 16 2006

RE: H.B. No. 3254 H.D. 1

Honorable Robert Bunda President of the Senate Twenty-Third State Legislature Regular Session of 2006 State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committee on Labor, to which was referred H.B. No. 3254, H.D. 1, entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO OATHS OF OFFICE,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose of this measure is to repeal provisions within the Hawaii Revised Statutes (HRS) that require public employees, who are not required under Article XVI, Section 4 of the Hawaii State Constitution, to take a loyalty oath.

Testimony in support of this measure was submitted by the Office of the Ombudsman.

Your Committee finds that Article XVI, Section 4, of the Hawaii State Constitution was amended in 1992 to require only the Governor, Lieutenant Governor, members of the Legislature, members of the Board of Education, members of the National Guard, employees of the State and counties possessing police powers, district court judges, and officers whose appointment requires the consent of the State Senate to subscribe to an oath of office. Subsequent to the 1992 constitutional amendment, part II of chapter 85, HRS, relating to loyalty oaths was also repealed.

However, your Committee further finds that, although obsolete, certain provisions of the law still exist that either require specific public employees to take a loyalty oath or refer to the repealed provisions of chapter 85, HRS. Your Committee determines that these provisions should be repealed, as the

2006-2012 SSCR SMA.doc

affected positions are not specifically enumerated as those subject to the constitutional mandate of a loyalty oath and their continued presence may cause confusion as to their effect and applicability.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Labor that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 3254, H.D. 1, and recommends that it pass Second Reading and be referred to the Committee on Judiciary and Hawaiian Affairs.

Respectfully submitted on behalf of the members of the Committee on Labor,

BRIAN KANNO, Chair

The Senate Twenty-Third Legislature State of Hawaii

Record of Votes of the Committee on Labor (Bills and Resolutions)

Measure:* HB 3254 HD1	Committee Referral: LBR, JHW			Date: 3-13-06	
The committee is reconsidering its previous decision on this measure. If so, then the previous decision was to:					
The Recommendation is to:					
Pass, unamended Pass, with amendments Hold Recommit (2312) (2311) (2310) (2313)					
Members		Ayes	Ayes(WR)	Nays	Excused
KANNO, Brian (C)					
IHARA, Jr., Les (VC)					
TANIGUCHI, Brian T.					
SLOM, Sam					
TOTAL		2		1	1
Recommendation: Adopted Not Adopted					
Chair's or Designee's Signature:					
Distribution: Original Yellow Pink Goldenrod File with Committee Report Clerk's Office Drafting Agency Committee File Copy					

^{*}Do <u>not</u> list more than one measure per Record of Votes.